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## BOOK REVIEWS.

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INDEX TO ENROLLED BILLS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF VIRGINIA, 1776 TO 1910. Compiled by John W. Williams, Clerk of the House of Delegates and Keeper of the Rolls. Richmond. Davis Bottom, Superintendent Public Printing, 1911; pp. 1155.

In 1908 Mr. Williams published an index to enrolled bills from 1776 to 1862. He has now brought the work down to and including 1910. At the time the first index was published we expressed the high appreciation which all students of Virginia history or Virginia laws must feel for Mr. Williams' work. It is so good that it is hard to see how it could be better. It is indispensable to the lawyer, the business man and the historian. As a mere labor saving machine it is worth many times its cost. In this admirable work the Clerk of the House has made what is in its line the most valuable Virginia compilation since the appearance of the Statutes at Large, and has placed himself along with William Waller Hening as one to whom the State owes a large debt of gratitude.

By the use of this index one can find in a moment the date of any act between 1776 and 1910, and in hardly a longer time can locate all the legislation on any one subject.

In an appendix is given a list of the acts of the so-called Virginia Legislature which met in Wheeling and Alexandria, 1861-65.

THE RECORDS OF AUGUSTA COUNTY, VIRGINIA. To be published by the Daughters of American Revolution.

Some years ago Judge Lyman H. Chalkley of Staunton, Va., made a complete abstract of all of the records of Augusta county, and of the old District Court, whose sessions were held at Staunton, but whose jurisdiction extended much farther west. Never has any series of county records been so completely given in abstract as in this case. Not only are the record books included, but also great numbers of separate papers. The abstracts comprise wills, deeds, court proceedings, affidavits, depositions, reports of commissions, tax lists, delinquent lists, decrees, marriages, marriage bonds, lists of French and Indian War and Revolutionary soldiers, pension declarations, land entries, inscriptions on tombstones and innumerable other subjects from 1745 to 1820.

Augusta county, as is well known, once included the present Kentucky; it was during the last half of the Eighteenth century the chief scene of "the winning of the West," and its people, probably more than those of any other section of the United States, helped to settle the country and establish the States west of the Alleghenies. It may be said without exaggeration that hundreds of thousands of Western people trace their ancestry to Augusta. Whether viewed from the standpoint of a historian or a genealogist, it is not believed that any county records in the country equal these in value and interest.

This great collection of abstracts and transcripts was purchased several years ago by the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and has now been placed in the hands of Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, State Regent, District of Columbia, for publication. The collection will be published in 3 royal octavo volumes of over 600 pages each, with an index of from 100 to 150 pages each. The price (subscription) will be: in paper \$15.00, cloth \$18.00 and leather \$20.00, no books delivered until subscription price is paid. The edition will be 800 and as a large number of sets will be purchased by various chapters (of the 1,125 belonging to the Society), prompt notice will be needed on the part of those wishing to obtain copies of this very valuable work. Inquiries and subscriptions should be addressed to Mrs. Mary S. Lockwood, Washington, D. C.

COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE SOUTHERN STATES OF AMERICA. A History and Genealogy of Colonial Families who Settled in the Colonies Prior to the Revolution. By Stella Pickett Hardy. Illustrated. Tobias A. Wright, Printer and Publisher, New York, 1911. Pp. xii, 643, with 51 illustrations (portraits, coats-of-arms and views of houses) and a full index.

Miss Hardy has evidently done a great deal of hard work and has compiled an exceedingly comprehensive volume, which is well arranged, printed and illustrated, and has an admirable index. Certainly no one volume which has been published has contained so much Southern (mainly Virginia) genealogy. In the main these genealogies are carefully done and will be of interest to great numbers of readers.

As in all genealogical works, especially those of the wide scope of Miss Hardy's book, there is much of bad along with the good. In the first place, it should be stated that genealogies of nine-tenths of the families treated of in *Colonial Families* have been before published in various places and by various compilers, though no mention of this is made in the volume now treated of. These various genealogies previously published are, as a rule, more comprehensive than those in Miss Hardy's book and accompanied by more documentary evidence. This would necessarily be the case when so many genealogies are in-